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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant asserts that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 15-27 are pending in the application. Claims 15-27 have been objected to. Claims 15-16, 18, 20-21 have been amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 15-27 would be allowable if corrected to overcome the objections listed below.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 15-27 because of alleged informalities. Claims 15-16, 18, 20-21 have been amended according to the Examiner's suggestions. However, acronyms have been written in full once in the set of claims, as is the accepted practice. Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of the objection.

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Remarks to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the disclosure because of some informalities. Paragraph [0070], line 16 has been amended as per the Examiner's suggestion. An additional English correction was made. No new matter was added. Applicant requests withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure.

Drawings Rejections

The Examiner objected to the drawings for a number of reasons as follows:

"The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p) (5) because they include the following reference character (s) not mentioned in the description: 273". (Office Action, page 2, section 4)

"The drawings are objected to because paragraph 0042 (see USPUB version of application) reads "connected to telephone line 117 by microfilter 219". The drawings show the microfilter as item 119 NOT 219. Morover paragraph 0068 reads "In step 278 the sampling of the PCM encoder is synchronized..." This step is shown to be item 355 in figure 9 NOT 278." (Office Action, page 2, section 2)

"The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR. 184(p) (5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 163, 165 and 167 in paragraph 0064." (Office Action, page 3, section 3)

Paragraphs [0042], [0064] and [0068] of the USPUB version of the application and paragraph [0075] of the Preliminary Amendment of February 11, 2003 have been amended to match the text to the drawings. Thus no drawings have been corrected.

Some additional corrections to the English of these paragraphs have also been made. No new matter has been added. Applicant requests withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 4, 2004

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